(c) if so, whether Government propose to take any steps to make possible the reduction of fruit processing costs in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) While it is for the entrepreneurs to decide the items to be processed and the equipments and technology to be used, the technical staff of the Ministry advises entrepreneurs on various aspects including technology for reducing the fruit processing costs. The Government has also liberalised the import of equipments and technology and has provided fiscal relief on equipments & machinery etc.

Deep sea fishing industry

280. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any plans to revive the deep-sea fishing industry and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any aid has been sought from World Bank for revival of deep-sea fishing industry and if so, the status of the aid programme; and

(c) whether in any of its project profiles for deep-sea fishing, the Government has considered Malpe fishing complex of Karnataka as a base for pilot demonstration project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) :

(a) Rehabilitation assistance was extended to the sick deep sea fishing companies assisted by the erstwhile SDFC under a rehabilitation scheme announced by the Government of India in April, 1991. This rehabilitation scheme, which was drawn up by the Government of India. In consultation with the fishing industry, envisaged concessions which included waiver of penal interest, recapitalisation of overdue amounts repayable over the balance economic life of the vessel, additional financial assistance for meeting increased cost of acquisition of vessels, financial assistance for repair and re-modification of vessels etc. The above rehabilitation package was further liberalised in June, 1992.

(b) Yes, Sir. World Bank was requested to fund the Demonstration Commercial Fishing for diversification of part of the present fishing fleet. The diversification of part of his fleet is crucial to the revival of the deep sea fishing industry. The World Bank has now communicated that deep sea fishing is not one of the priorities of their Agriculture Division's pipeline. They have, however, stated that the subject is interesting and important and they would share with the Government any information on possible assistance if it becomes available.

(c) No, Sir.

Neglect of various food processing sectors

281. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the new item which appeared in the Economic Times dated 30th March, 1993 captioned "Government gambles on glitzy generic ad to boost food processing";

(b) whether the Ministry of Food processing Industries has neglected the State of health of many vital sectors coming under its jurisdiction;

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to stablise various sectors like deep-sea fisheries and vegetable processing units which are facing crises ;

(d) whether it is a fact that over Rs. 1 crore is being spent on ads; and

(e) the steps being taken to avoid high expenditure on account of publicity?